Office of the Premier

2016/17 – 2018/19
SERVICE PLAN

February 2016

BRITISH
COLUMBIA

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Published by the Office of the Premier

Premier
Accountability Statement

The *Office of the Premier 2016/17 – 2018/19 Service Plan* was prepared under my direction, in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

Honourable Christy Clark
Premier
February 4, 2016

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Purpose of the Office of the Premier

The Premier serves as the President of the Executive Council (Cabinet) of the Government of British Columbia. The Office of the Premier assists the Premier in overseeing and leading the government as a whole. In addition, it supports the Cabinet decision-making process. As a central agency, the Office facilitates effective policy coordination across the public service and ensures a strategic and corporate level approach is undertaken on the development and implementation of key priorities. The Premier is advised by the Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Public Service on matters of public policy, and management and operational issues.

The Office:

- Articulates government's goals, commitments and priorities through ministry mandate letters, and works with ministries and Crown agencies to ensure communication of those goals, commitments and priorities and to track and monitor their implementation;
- Leads the public service and, with the Deputy Ministers' Council, the corporate strategies that exist to effectively support people, process and technology (Being the Best, Lean BC and Citizens @ the Centre) to achieve ongoing improvements and efficiencies in the the delivery of public services;
- Provides support for the operations and decision-making processes of Cabinet and its committees; and
- Works directly with the federal government and with all ministries and Crown agencies to ensure that relations with the federal, provincial, territorial and international governments advance British Columbia's interests.

Strategic Direction and Context

Led by the Office of the Premier, this government's strategic objective is to grow BC's diverse economy – creating opportunities for communities across the province, dividends for British Columbians, and ensuring a bright future for generations to come.

Steadfastly committed to protecting taxpayers and ensuring the sustainability of quality public services, this government will continue to control spending and ensure a balanced budget. This government will continue to ensure that programs and services operate with minimum waste and maximum impact – supported by the efforts of dedicated public servants across BC. Our commitment to cost consciousness and accountability is also reflected in the Taxpayer Accountability Principles for all public entities.

Recognizing that new jobs should be created by the private sector, this government will continue to create an environment where business and entrepreneurs can succeed. That means continuing to build on the success of the BC Jobs Plan, strengthening our trade relationships with key markets in Asia-Pacific and around the world, and working to support success in key sectors of our economy.

This government will continue to implement the Skills for Jobs Blueprint, to ensure that British Columbians are trained and ready for new jobs in LNG, tech, and every other sector of BC's growing, diverse economy.

Recognizing that British Columbia works best when we work together, the Office of the Premier will spearhead the continued development of stronger relationships with business, labour, First Nations, and other levels of government.

With an increasing and ageing population, the demand on public services and infrastructure British Columbians depend on will continue to rise. A growing economy is vital to expand services, and make investments for the future. The Office of the Premier will continue to work with Ministers and their staff to ensure the achievement of the objectives in their mandate letters.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Measures

Goal 1: Government's priorities are implemented

Objective 1.1: Ministries and Crown Agency activities are integrated and aligned with government's priorities

Strategies

- Lead and support the Executive Council in the successful development and implementation of the Government Strategic Plan.
- Clearly articulate priorities of government in the Strategic Plan and assist all ministries to develop strategies to achieve the goals and priorities established in the Strategic Plan.
- Administer government's accountability framework by supporting ministries and Crown agencies in developing service plans and annual service plan reports to ensure they advance Government's Strategic Plan.
- Guide the successful delivery of ministry and Crown agency mandates by providing direction and resolving issues requiring senior government input.
- Address priority issues on behalf of Executive Council and manage issues that arise in the delivery of programs and services.

Performance Measure 1: Performance targets in place for Deputy Ministers and Associate Deputy Ministers

Performance Measure	Benchmark	2015/16 Forecast	2016/17 Target	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Performance targets in place for Deputy Ministers and Associate Deputy Ministers.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data Source: BC Public Service Agency

Discussion

Within government's accountability framework there are strategies in place for all government staff, from front line workers to Deputy Ministers. The Office of the Premier is administratively responsible for the performance targets that are in place for Deputy Ministers.

There are multiple interlinking layers to government's accountability framework. The Government Strategic Plan sets out the overall priorities and goals that illustrate the Province's vision for the future. Ministry service plans have goals, objectives, strategies and performance measures with targets to accomplish those goals for the upcoming three-year period. These plans are tabled in the legislature with the budget in February of each year. In June, government, ministries and Crown agencies report on their achievements of the previous fiscal year in their service plan annual report.

Goal 2: The public service is well positioned to deliver government programs for British Columbians

Objective 2.1: BC Public Service Corporate Initiatives' goals are realized

Strategies

- Continue to develop corporate initiatives for the BC Public Service.
- Continue to support people, process and technology by building on *Being the Best, Learn BC* and *Citizens @ the Centre* based on feedback and results.

Performance Measure 2: BC Public Service is recognized as a top employer

Performance Measure	2015/16 Forecast	2016/17 Target	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
BC Public Service is recognized as a top employer in British Columbia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Data Source: BC Public Service Agency

Discussion

In 2006, the Corporate Human Resource Plan, *Being the Best*, was developed by the Deputy Ministers' Council, led by the Deputy Minister to the Premier. The Council is committed to achieving the status of the BC Government as a top employer through ongoing implementation of the plan and its companion strategies with the involvement of the BC Public Service. The BC Public Service has been recognized as one of:

- BC's Top Employers for every year since 2008
- Canada's Top 100 Employers for every year since 2010
- Canada's Top Family Friendly Employers for 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2015
- Canada's Greenest Employers for every year since 2009
- Top Employers for Canadians over 40 for 2014 and 2015

Goal 3: Cabinet and Cabinet Committees are able to make timely and well-informed decisions

Objective 3.1: Cabinet and its Committees are supported with timely and effective advice

Strategies

- Support Cabinet and its Committees by ensuring timeliness, and appropriate advice on key policy, program and legislative initiatives, which align with government priorities, including an ability to measure the success of the initiatives.
- Effectively provide necessary and appropriate logistical support for the operations and decision-making process of Cabinet and its Committees.
- Continue to use technologies and tools to improve efficiencies in the logistical support of Cabinet and its Committees.

Performance Measure 3: Cabinet receives timely advice on all key public policy recommendations and plans

Performance Measure	2006/07 Baseline	2015/16 Forecast	2016/17 Target	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Cabinet receives timely advice on all key public policy recommendations and plans	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data Source: Cabinet Operations

Discussion

All major policies, programs and initiatives are reviewed by Cabinet or a Cabinet committee to ensure alignment with government strategic priorities. There are currently nine Cabinet committees and Cabinet working groups, each making recommendations to Cabinet on specific programs and initiatives within their respective mandates. For example, the Environment and Land Use Committee reviews issues affecting the province's land base and ensures that both economic and environmental considerations are balanced.

Cabinet committees and ministries provide prompt and effective advice enabling timely and well-informed Cabinet decisions benefitting British Columbians.

Goal 4: Government is successful in achieving its intergovernmental relations objectives

Objective 4.1: British Columbia's priorities are advanced through leadership in intergovernmental, bilateral and multilateral partnerships and international relations

Strategies

- Engage the federal government in achieving BC priorities.
- Strengthen partnerships with other provinces through bilateral and multilateral co-operation on shared priorities discussed at the Council of the Federation, New West Partnership and other Premiers' meetings.
- Positively influence the policies and programs of other governments that affect the interests of British Columbia through enhanced economic, cultural and diplomatic ties and programs.
- Maintain regional leadership and establish shared economic and environmental priorities through the Pacific Coast Collaborative, British Columbia's participation in the Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER) and other opportunities as they arise.

Performance Measure 4: Progress on Intergovernmental Relations key issues

Performance Measure	Benchmark	2015/16 Forecast	2016/17 Target	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Progress on key objectives in Intergovernmental Relations Plan	Progress on key objectives	Progress achieved on key objectives	Progress on key objectives	Progress on key objectives	Progress on key objectives

Data Source: Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Discussion

Each year, the Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat updates its plan with key objectives and major projects, which typically take more than one fiscal year to measure progress. For 2015/16 progress was made on all new initiatives.

The key objectives identified in the intergovernmental plan for 2016/17 are:

- Increase government-to-government engagement at senior levels within the Canadian federation and with the United States and other priority countries, including sustained relationships with members of the B.C. Consular Corps, which represents more than 80 countries.
- Promote constructive, focused engagement with the federal government on BC priorities such as softwood lumber, LNG, trade (including export-related Pacific Gateway infrastructure), immigration, and relationships with First Nations.

- Engage and participate in initiatives with provinces and territories through the Council of the Federation, New West Partnership, Western Premiers' Conferences and other intergovernmental forums.
- Advance bilateral collaboration, focusing on jobs and economic growth, with neighbouring provinces and states through joint meetings of leaders, cabinet and/or senior officials and other initiatives.
- Engage with other governments and private sector members of PNWER to promote actions in support of keeping the Canada-US border open for legitimate trade and tourism and building regional consensus and understanding on actions that increase economic opportunities for BC families in areas such as sustainable resource management and softwood lumber trade.
- Leverage the shared goals and objectives of the Pacific Coast Collaborative set out in British Columbia's agreements with the states of California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska, including implementing the regional jobs strategy and the action plan on climate and clean energy.
- Work across government, with BC stakeholders, with the federal government, and US federal and state agencies to facilitate the management of transboundary environmental and resource management concerns consistent with the Province's high environmental standards.
- Support the government's international engagement activities by providing policy advice and support with respect to international government-to-government relations.
- Liaise with foreign government representatives (e.g. BC Consular Corps) in moments of crisis and/or domestic emergencies.
- Plan and conduct international visits to BC by representatives of foreign governments and diplomats.
- Provide protocol and ceremonial advice to BC government stakeholders and the general public.
- Provide advice to ministries on development of memoranda of understanding and other government to government agreements.
- Support citizen engagement through the Order of British Columbia, Medal of Good Citizenship, Congratulatory Messages Program, and ceremonies.
- Implement the Canada-British Columbia Official Languages Agreement on French Language Services.

Resource Summary

Core Business Area	2015/16 Estimates[1]	2016/17 Estimates[2]	2017/18 Plan	2018/19 Plan
Operating Expenses ($000)				
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat	2,453	2,453	2,453	2,471
Executive and Support Services	6,568	6,540	6,574	6,584
Office of the Premier	3,041	3,030	3,040	3,050
Executive Operations	3,527	3,510	3,525	3,525
Total	9,020	8,993	9,040	9,055
Minor Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) ($000)				
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat	0	0	0	0
Executive and Support Services	1	1	1	1
Office of the Premier	0	0	0	0
Executive Operations	1	1	1	1
Total	1	1	1	1

[1] 3-year allocations for Economic Stability Mandate (which include both wages and benefits at a 2% chargeback rate) beginning in 2015/16 for negotiated increases.

[2] ESM increase effective April 2016 (0.5%) and February 2017 (0.1%). Benefits reduced to 2% 5%.

"Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates."

Appendices

Appendix A: Premier's Office Contact Information

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Appendix B: Hyperlink to Additional Information

Office of the Premier: www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/ministries/office-of-the-premier/